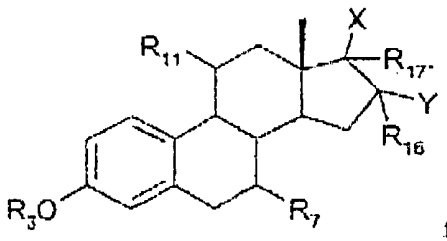
In the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition having ERα agonist activity and having ERβ antagonist activity, comprising:

a steroid compound satisfying the following structural formula:



formula I

wherein:

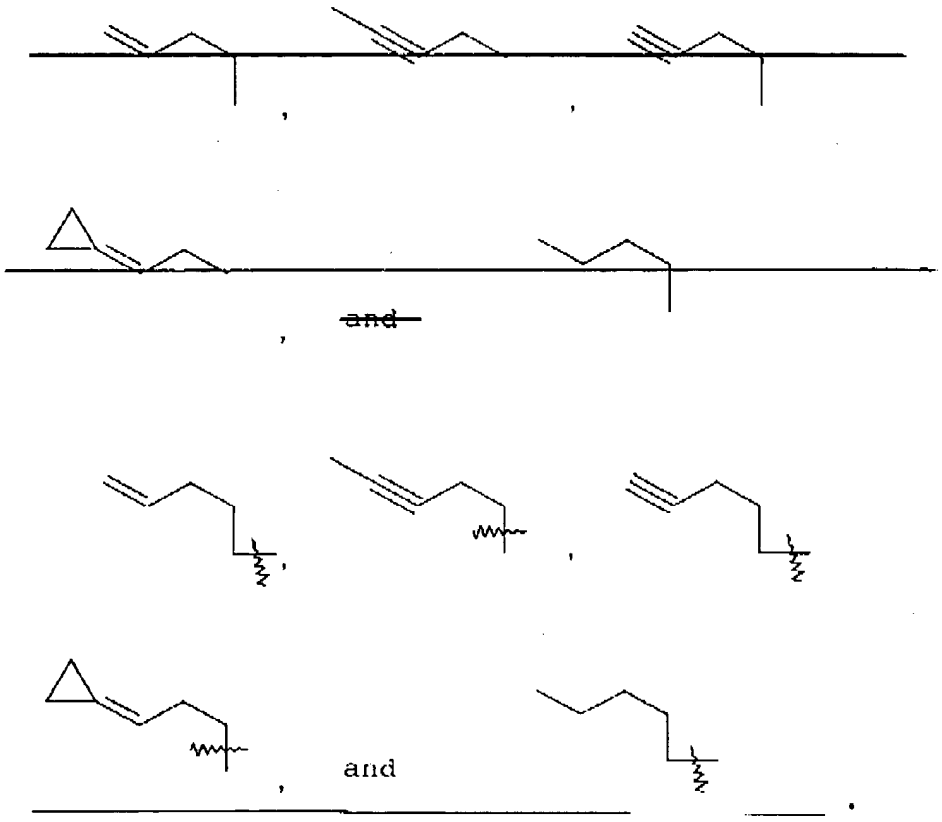
one of X and Y is OH, the other being H;

R_3 is H or COR'_3, with R'_3 being alkyl or aryl;

R_7, R_{16}, and R_{17} each independently are H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl; R_{11} is a hydrocarbon group, which may be linear or branched, comprising one single linear chain having a length of from 5 to 9 carbon atoms as the longest chain on carbon atom no. 11 of the steroid skeleton, wherein said chain may be saturated or unsaturated, and

a pharmaceutical acceptable auxiliary.

2. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R_{11} is selected from the following group of side-chain structures selected from the group consisting of



I think the structures should be as above (see Table B). All invention cpds. have a chain of 5 carbon atoms. See also my amendments to Claim 14.

3. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the longest chain in R_{11} comprises 5-7 carbon atoms.

4. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein the longest chain in R_{11} comprises 5 carbon atoms.

5. (Canceled).

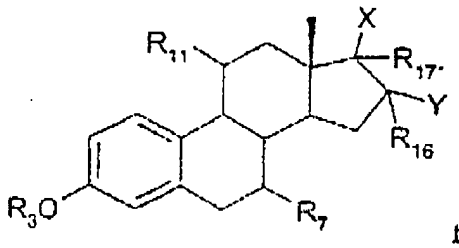
6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) A method for treating estrogen deficiency disorders, comprising:

administering to a patient afflicted with an estrogen deficiency disorder an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1.

8. (Previously Presented) A method of inducing ERα agonist activity and ERβ antagonist activity in a patient in need thereof, comprising:

administering an effective amount of a steroid compound satisfying the following structural formula:



formula I

wherein:

one of X and Y is OH, the other being H;

R_3 is H or COR'_3, with R'_3 being alkyl or aryl;

R_7, R_{16}, and R_{17} each independently are H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl;

R_{11} is a hydrocarbon group, which may be linear or branched, comprising one single linear chain having a length of from 5 to 9 carbon atoms as the longest chain on carbon atom no. 11 of the steroid skeleton, wherein said chain may be saturated or unsaturated.

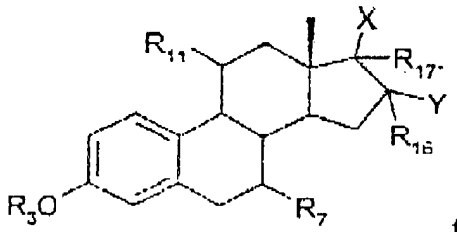
9. (Canceled).

10. (Canceled).

11. (Canceled).

12. (Canceled).

13. (New) A steroid compound having ERα agonist activity and having ERβ antagonist activity and satisfying the following structural formula:



formula I

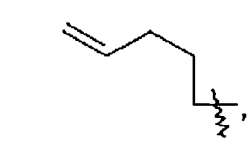
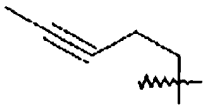
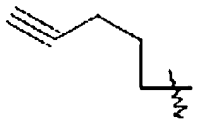
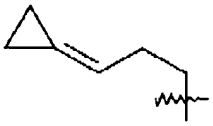
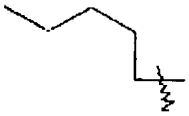
wherein:

one of X and Y is OH, the other being H;

R_3 is H or COR'$_3$, with R'$_3$ being alkyl or aryl;

R_7, R_{16}, and R_{17} each independently are H, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl; R_{11} is a hydrocarbon group, which may be linear or branched, comprising one single linear chain having a length of from 5 to 9 carbon atoms as the longest chain on carbon atom no. 11 of the steroid skeleton, wherein said chain may be saturated or unsaturated.

14. (New) The steroid compound according to claim 13, wherein R_{11} is selected from the following group of side-chain structures selected from the group consisting of


,

,

,

, and

.

Note the changes I made to Claim 14, as I previously indicated.

15. (New) The steroid compound according to claim 13, wherein the longest chain in R_{11} comprises 5-7 carbon atoms.

16. (New) The steroid compound according to claim 15, wherein the longest chain in R_{11} comprises 5 carbon atoms.